

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly rewrite Claims 1-5 as follows, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, as modified by Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted, 1267 OG 106 (Feb. 25, 2003):

1. (Currently Amended) A gap seal for sealing a gap (3) between two adjacent components (1, 2), in particular of turbo machines, with the following characteristics, comprising:
- two components having a gap therebetween defining a gap plane, each component (1, 2) comprising one groove (7) that is open towards the gap (3), each groove having a bottom and defining a longitudinal direction,
 - the two grooves (7) are essentially facing each other in the gap (3);
 - a mutual sealing body (16) projectsprojecting into both grooves (7), two sections of the sealing body comprising straight outer sides defining angles therebetween;
 - in each groove (7), a compensation body (11) is movably positioned transversely to the longitudinal groove direction and parallel to the gap plane (10);
 - each compensation body (11) abuts sealingly abutting the groove bottom (9) of the corresponding groove (7) in a sealing manner;
 - each compensation body (11) has having a V-shaped receiving groove (14) that is open towards the facing other compensation body (11), each V-shaped receiving groove having straight inner sides;
 - the sealing body (16) has having a rhombus-shaped cross-section and projectsprojecting into both receiving grooves (14);
 - the straight inner sides (15) of each receiving groove (14) are being angled towards each other at the same angle as the straight outer sides (17) of the section of the sealing body (16) projecting into them; and
 - in each receiving groove (14), at least one outer side (17) of the sealing body (16) abuts sealingly abutting the corresponding inner side (15) of the receiving groove (14) with surface contact and in a sealing manner.

2. (Currently Amended) A gap seal according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the components (1, 2) are movable relative to each other in such a way that the gap width may change, whereby and wherein the sealing body (16) and the receiving grooves (17) have such dimensions are dimensioned so that when a minimum gap width can be realized, at which the components (1, 2) abut each other.

3. (Currently Amended) A gap seal according to Claim 1 or 2,
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the groove bottom (9) in both grooves (7) is constructed level and extends parallel to the gap plane (10), ~~whereby and wherein~~ each compensation body (11) has a level bottom (13) that abuts the groove bottom (9) of the corresponding groove (7) with surface contact.
4. (Currently Amended) A gap seal according to one of Claims Claim 1 to 3, characterized in that wherein each groove (7) has a U-shaped cross-section ~~in which~~ including facing, straight inside walls (8) of the groove (7) ~~extend extending~~ parallel to each other and vertical to the gap plane (10), ~~and that;~~
~~wherein~~ each compensation body (11) has a U-shaped outer cross-section ~~in which~~ including straight outside walls (12) facing away from each other ~~and extend~~ extending parallel to the corresponding inside walls (8) of the groove (7), ~~whereby;~~
~~wherein~~ a distance between the outside walls (12) of the ~~each~~ compensation body (11) is smaller than a distance between the inside walls (8) of the ~~corresponding~~ groove (7).
5. (Currently Amended) A gap seal according to one of Claims Claim 1 to 4, characterized in that wherein at least one of the components (1, 2) is ~~comprises~~ an element of a turbine or a compressor, the element selected from the group consisting of a guide vane, ~~or a rotor vane blade, or and~~ a heat shield element of a turbine or of a compressor.